

Semi-Weekly Founded
1908
Weekly Founded, 1844

The Citizen.

Wayne County Organ
of the
REPUBLICAN PARTY

65th YEAR.

HONESDALE, WAYNE CO., PA., WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1908.

NO. 24

FLEETS OF AIRSHIPS.

British War Balloon Expert Says Time For Them is Near.

In the opinion of Colonel James Templer, former superintendent of the balloon factory of the British army at Aldershot, who talked at the Waldorf hotel in New York the other night on military aeronautics, it will be only a comparatively short time when the United States and other countries will have large fleets of large dirigible balloons for emergencies of war.

The colonel went to New York after witnessing the tests of Captain Thomas S. Baldwin's war balloon at Fort Myer, Va. He said countries like the United States and England, instead of having only two or three little dirigibles, carrying two or three men each, would ultimately be content with nothing less than several hundred war balloons.

"I am delighted," said the colonel, "with Captain Baldwin's balloon, as it was just the right shape and size efficiently to train men, and it certainly was a great personal success for Captain Baldwin—who, by the way, is a splendid chap—as hitherto that size balloon had never been made so that it could be both dirigible and buoyant. The fact of its taking up two men rendered the ascent more by Captain Baldwin and Lieutenant Lahm very surprising to me and a most unqualified success."

"I am delighted to think that it is under consideration that Captain Baldwin is to receive instructions to build a larger dirigible balloon for your war department as soon as the money can be obtained. This matter should be pushed with all possible facility."

"I am delighted with my reception. I am delighted with the country. Unless I get orders I shall stay here until the Wrights' aeroplane tests are over. I want to see those, not that I have any doubt as to the Wrights meeting all the specifications of the war department, but because I believe they can do even more. I spent one whole day with Orville Wright, and I cannot tell you how favorably I am impressed. The Wrights are, in fact, the best up to date with aeroplanes. They have the best heavier than air machine that I have ever seen or read of. We have a man in England, Cody by name, who will really surprise people with an aeroplane that he will soon test for the British army. Then, too, I mustn't say anything about that, not a word," said the colonel seriously.

MAY CUT BRYAN IN GRANITE.

Amateur Sculptor Has Carved Fifty-four Faces on Small Block.

Elmer Burkett of Wayne, Pa., mine owner and amateur sculptor, who arrived at New York recently on the Cunarder Lusitania with a small piece of granite in his pocket, is looking for William Jennings Bryan. He met Mr. Taft abroad and managed to get the impression of the Republican candidate's head on the granite rock and is now in pursuit of Mr. Bryan for a sitting.

Mr. Burkett has chiseled some crowned heads on his tallman, and, although the stone is only 8 by 7 by 7 inches, he has carved upon it the faces of fifty-four persons of note he has met. Mr. Burkett said that many years ago, before he became wealthy, he was walking along the tracks of the main line of the Pennsylvania railroad and found the piece of granite. A few days later fortune smiled upon him, and no amount of money, he said, could tempt him to part with it. He has a set of small, sharp steel tools, made especially for him, and they are always wrapped up with the rock and guarded more carefully than his purse. While on his way to Liverpool a year ago on the Cunarder the sculptor received an offer of \$10,000 from an art collector for the rock of many heads, but he refused to sell it.

Science Siftings.

Mars has a day forty-one minutes longer than our own.

A photographic process which gives both perspective and relief is the invention of Professor Lippman of Paris, a pioneer in color photography.

The popular notion that the full moon disperses clouds has been found to be incorrect by scientific investigations carried on for six years by a German scientist, Otto Meisner.

The Pleiades have long formed an interesting test of vision. To ordinary eyesight six stars are visible, but keen-eyed persons see seven and even eleven or more. Reporting late observations, P. Vincart, an Antwerp astronomer, mentions counting thirteen Pleiades with the naked eye.

No Transfer For Bryan.

W. J. Bryan makes a frank statement of his resources, and tells how and where he got his money. He is worth \$125,000, and made most of it lecturing. Owing to the fact that he is doing so nicely on the platform, it would be hardly right to transfer him to a field where he might make a mess of things both for himself and the cause of the Pennsylvania Spirit.

JUDGE'S OFFER TO A BOY.

To Get \$100 If He Gives Up Revolvers and Yellow Backs Until Twenty-one.

"Stop carrying a revolver and quit reading yellow backs until you are twenty-one. Then come around to my office and I will give you a check for \$100 to help you along."

Judge John T. Sims of Kansas City, Kan., was moved to generosity the other morning when James Higgins of 2800 North Tremont street, Kansas City, a youth of sixteen, entered the police courtroom in that city and, stopping up to the desk, laid down a .32 caliber revolver and a pile of paper back novels.

"There they are, Judge, all of them," he said. He started to run away, but a new thought struck him. "I like to read stories of hunting and of adventure, and, as for the revolver, I only used it to practice shooting when I went down to the river bank."

Judge Sims looked at the paper backs. Two of them were of the Tip Top Weekly series and were entitled "Dick Merriwell in the Wilds" and "Dick Merriwell's Red Comrade," both stories of hunting in the mountains. The other was of the Nick Carter Weekly series, entitled "Nick Carter's Japanese Rival." It was a detective story of Japan.

"These may not be so bad," Judge Sims commented. "But as a general proposition such reading is bad for a boy, and too often it leads to evil. There is something good in you, something hopeful, something manly. See that you quit reading such things, stop carrying a gun, make a man of your self and the \$100 is yours."

HOOKLESS WAIST.

Hoboken Inventor Shows Dressmaker Labor Saving Device.

While fourteen young women of various sizes and styles of architecture tried on corsets for the benefit of the 400 delegates to the convention of the Dressmaker Protective association in Masonic temple, New York the other night official agreement was made that hereafter all assistance in buttoning her corset in the back.

A public benefactor who lives in Hoboken, N. J., submitted for the approval of the dressmakers a small metal device which, he said, would soon take the place of buttons and hooks and eyes throughout the civilized world. More than a dozen men who did not know that admission to the dressmakers' convention was limited to women spent the evening in the corridor, where the man from Hoboken explained the beauties of his discovery. According to his optimistic prediction, his device, consisting of a chain running between two lines of sockets with a ring at the top, will soon be in general use and will bring succor of care to thousands of husbands.

"One pull on the ring," said the orator from Hoboken, "and the dress is buttoned or unbuttoned, hooked or unhooked, as the case may be. Any child can operate the device."

"Give me \$5 worth," said one of his auditors, and others also purchased.

A FROHMAN JOKE.

Brother Daniel Springs It on the Theatrical Managers' Meeting.

Daniel Frohman, the theatrical manager, exploded this at a recent meeting of the Theater Managers' association in the Hotel Astor, at New York city. The managers were discussing Rosland's new play, "Chanticleer," in which Coquelin may appear in the United States. It is a play of birds, symbolic of human emotions. The discussion aroused much interest.

"In what language do the birds speak?" asked a facetious manager. "All French except the chanticleer," said Mr. Frohman quickly, "and he speaks cockney."

Improving City Life.

While considering the subject of uplifting life that's rural

Why not make it somewhat broader—let the uplift be made plural?

Why not ring the urban changes clear from attic unto cellar?

Till life holds naught unpleasant for the harassed city dweller?

Why not penalize the neighbor who, with nerve that's nickel plated,

Throws her windows wide, wide open when her voice is cultivated?

Why not fine the milkman noisy who percolates in tin can rattling?

When for precious beauty slumber at the dawning you are battling?

Why not class as crime unpardonable the crowing of the rooster?

Eke the loud and raucous throating of the rooster baseball booster?

Check the noises phonographic—make the book agents less active—

And the life of city dwellers will be slightly more attractive.

—Arthur Chapman in Denver Republican.

A New Danger.

Knicker—Let's sit out the dance in the conservatory.

Stella—But they say that plants have eyes and memories.—New York Sun.

Novel Use For Elephants.

Elephants are being employed in Paris as "sandwich men" to advertise a music hall in the Champs Elysees.

Iron and Wood.

So much has been said of late regarding the depletion of our forests that the impression may be created that we are passing into a position unique among nations of not having any timber supply of our own. Such is distinctly not the case, says the Iron Trade Review. However serious may be the present rate of drain upon our forests, if there is any uniqueness in our position among nations it is that of still having an immense area of untouched timber land. It is not that our forests, as a natural supply to a nation, have become small, but that the present area is small compared to that which once existed. We are driven toward forestry not because the supply is scant, as such supplies go throughout the world, but because we have been tending rapidly toward the position of being reduced to the level of the older nations.

The talk of a famine in any commodity is useful to bring about measures of economy and conservation, declares the Review, and continues:

But as regards either wood or iron in the United States there is not the least occasion for alarm. Scientific forestry can easily overtake the destruction which is now occurring in the timber supply, with a most ample area on which to work to grow for the future a vastly larger annual supply per capita than readily suffices for Germany, while on the other hand the utilization of our lower grade iron ores can easily supply a greater quantity of iron than can possibly be put into use, with all the growth in population which the country is otherwise capable of supporting.

It is not a question of famine or exhaustion in the one commodity or in the other. It is a question of prospective needs and of prospective cost to supply those needs. Scientific forestry cannot produce wood as cheaply as it has been sold. A higher standard of value for wood must prevail when it is grown through the active effort of man than when it is cut down, possible for the chief purpose of clearing the land for cultivation. A higher standard of value for iron now prevails when the necessity is faced of working lower grade ores than prevailed when ore almost up to the theoretical standard of excellence was being mined with no thought of possible exhaustion.

Looking Into Our Natural Resources.

The idea of conserving our natural resources seems to have taken deep root. Following close upon the approval of the governors of the states and the endorsement of some of the great national organizations, the movement has spread all over the United States. New state conservation commissions have been reported to the national conservation commission at the rate of three and four a week, and many national organizations devoted to special lines of progress are coming forward with conservation committees of their own.

Various bureaus of the federal government are rapidly pushing work on the inventory of resources in order that a preliminary report may be placed before the national conservation commission at its meeting in December. Inquiries have gone out to special agents in the several fields of government service, to bureaus of statistics, to county and town authorities, to manufacturers and dealers, to transportation companies and to farmers. The inquiries relate to farm, timber and mineral lands, to crops and crop production, to irrigation, navigation and water power, to land and water resources and even to the condition of the country's live stock, game and fish. Upon the results of these inquiries Uncle Sam will base the first inquiry ever attempted of the nation's natural wealth.

It was inevitable that when bedlam-fied New York set the example other cities would follow, and anti-noise ordinances have been taken up recently by a hundred town and city councils. The problem is not difficult when the disturbers of rest are whistles, bells and other alarms which, intended to summon a few scores or hundreds to their tasks, torture the sleep of thousands. Beyond that the question arises as to what constitute an unnecessary noise. Some courts have already been "up against" this very difficult problem and have gracefully retired, leaving the problem just where they found it.

Mortality.

Half the people in the world die before the age of sixteen. Only one in a hundred lives to sixty-five.

Miccoughs.

A Brazilian physician, Dr. Ramos, states that refrigeration of the lobe of the ear will stop hicough, whatever its cause may be. A very slight refrigeration, he asserts, will answer, the application of cold water or even saliva being sufficient.

The Razor Edge.

The thickness of a razor edge has been reckoned at about one-millionth of an inch.

LEST WE FORGET.

The Political Battle of 1851—The Paramount Issue.

SECOND ARTICLE.

Perhaps the most exciting political battle ever fought in Wayne was the contest of 1851, fifty-seven years ago. The candidates for Governor were Wm. Bigler and Wm. F. Johnston, and the visits of the rival nominees to Honesdale on succeeding days—the 6th and 7th of August—called out without question two of the largest and most enthusiastic demonstrations ever seen in this section. The Democrats and Whigs put forth every effort to outdo each other, and when the standard-bearers were being escorted from Narrowsburg to Honesdale, from Beach Pond hitherward the turnpike was not only filled with paraders—the procession being miles in length—with banners flying and bands playing; but the roadsides were fringed with onlookers, and continuous outbursts of cheering made the very welkin ring.

Yet it was not the important National and State issues discussed by the two great leaders which most interested Wayne county voters at that time. The question paramount here was whether or not the State should in the near future avail itself of its option under the Act which gave Maurice Wurts the right to improve the Lackawaxen river and one of its tributary creeks, to take over the Pennsylvania section of the Delaware & Hudson canal, as an addition to the public works owned by the Commonwealth. Maurice Wurts obtained his charter through an act of the Legislature approved by the Governor on the 13th of March, 1823. He was by it empowered to enter upon the Lackawaxen and any one of the streams emptying into the river, and in a manner most suitable and convenient for himself, open, enlarge, change, make anew and improve the channel, taking stones, trees, rocks and all other impediments out of the creek and using them for the construction of dams and locks, or otherwise disposing of them, and thus complete a good and safe descending navigation, available for use at least once every six days, excepting when obstructed by ice or floods, from at or near Wagner's Gap in Luzerne county, or Rix's Gap (in the Moosic mountain) in Wayne, to the mouth of the Lackawaxen. The channel was to be not less than twenty feet wide and eighteen inches deep for arks and rafts, and of sufficient depth of water to float down boats carrying cargoes of ten tons. For craft going up the stream, no tolls were to be charged unless this ditch was converted into a complete slackwater navigation, which more extensive improvement was also authorized, but its construction left optional with Mr. Wurts. In case he concluded to adopt the slackwater plan, he was required to build bridges, and provide fords when necessary, as well as proper dams over which rafts could pass in safety on their way to the Delaware. The locks were to be 64 feet long and 18 feet wide, and on approaching them the boatman was required to blow a trumpet or horn to apprise the boater that he was only a quarter of a mile away.

Mr. Wurts was to be reimbursed for the expense of the contemplated improvement of the Lackawaxen by the tolls which he was authorized to charge for descending craft only, in case complete slackwater navigation was not established, and for both ascending and descending boats if it was. If it was found that his profits from this source after two years amounted to more than nine per cent., the tolls were to be reduced so as to yield no more than that figure, but if they failed to return nine per cent, they could be raised correspondingly. After five years 15 per cent. was named as the limit.

At the expiration of thirty years from the passage of the act, Mr. Wurts was required to render an account under oath of the amount of money expended and the tolls received, and if the latter amounted to so much as six per cent. beyond the former the Legislature was authorized to resume all the rights, liberties and franchises granted; but if they had not amounted to so much, then on payment of the difference or deficiency to Mr. Wurts the State could exercise the same right. In case of such resumption the Legislature was to fulfill all the obligations enjoined on Mr. Wurts. If it so happened that the latter had not completed either the descending or slackwater navigation within ten years, the State reserved the authority to completely dispose him at that time.

In 1826 a supplement was passed forbidding Mr. Wurts to make a slackwater navigation in the bed of the Lackawaxen, unless of sufficient capacity to accommodate boats or crafts of 25 tons burden, and later on the Del. and Hud. Canal Company, which had in the meantime been incorporated in New York

State, and had built a canal from the Hudson to the Delaware, was permitted by the Pennsylvania Assembly to take over Mr. Wurts' franchises and property, at the same time assuming his obligations as defined in his charter.

This company, as is well-known, instead of making the western terminus of its navigation at or near Rix's Gap, say in the vicinity of Keen's pond, as was at first contemplated, located it at the forks of the Dyberry, now Honesdale, thus laying the foundation for the thriving town which has long outlived the canal enterprise which gave it birth.

The thirty years named in the act providing for the improvement of the Lackawaxen expired on the 13th of March, 1853, but in anticipation of that date, agitation for and against the taking over of the Pennsylvania Division of the Del. and Hud. Canal commenced two years previously. By the fall of 1851 the question had assumed such proportions that prospective candidates in Wayne, both for judicial and legislative offices, found themselves required to clearly define their positions in regard to it. The papers were filled with antagonistic articles—some lauding the Del. and Hud. Co., as the great benefactor of this region; others denouncing it as a soulless corporation which had grown immensely rich through its refusal to live up to its obligations; through its willful and persistent discrimination against small coal producers; and through its failure to contribute in taxes its share of the county expenses.

The Democrats nominated N. B. Eldred, of Bethany, for President Judge; Thomas H. R. Tracy and James Munnford for Associate Judges; Ephraim W. Hamlin for Senator and Thomas J. Hubbell for Representative. The Whigs claimed that the convention which named these candidates was notoriously packed by the D. and H. Co.; that the delegates were bought to vote in the interests of that corporation, and that the nominees with the exception of Judge Eldred, whom they endorsed, were selected with a view to relieving it from its obligations to the State. They were especially bitter over the proposition to put Mr. Tracy, a prominent company official, on the bench, and attacked him with great vigor throughout the canvass. The Whig ticket was, Associate Judges, John Torrey and Noah Rogers, Senator, Richard L. Seely; Representative F. B. Penniman.

The election resulted in a majority of from 1,000 to 1,150 for the Democratic ticket, but this overwhelming defeat by no means dampened the ardor of the opponents of the D. and H. Canal Co. They promptly drew up petitions, to which hundreds of names were secured in Wayne and Luzerne counties, which were sent to members of the House and Senate, praying for an investigation of the company's affairs and urging the Legislature to avail itself of its resumption privilege at the expiration of the thirty years. They had their labor for their pains, however. An investigating committee was indeed appointed, which held sessions and took testimony in Honesdale and Carbondale as well as other places, and summoned the officers of the company before it to give an account of their stewardship. The result was a report which recommended that the State waive its reserved right of resumption. Among the expenses of the committee Thomas H. Bass was paid four dollars for his services in subpoenaing witnesses in Wayne. Early in the session of 1852, Silas S. Benedict, of Carbondale, formerly of this county, introduced a bill in the House for the repeal of the resumption act, which was passed. In the Senate the measure met with much opposition, but was carried on the 28th of April, 1852 by a vote of 18 to 14. Many amendments were offered, requiring the company to pay the State a share of its profits, a percentage on its capital, etc., but none prevailed, and on the 30th of April the Governor signed the bill repealing the resumption clause and giving the Del. and Hud. Co. a perpetual charter, authorizing the corporation to conduct their business as in the past and to maintain their works and appurtenances without liability to account or surrender.

As a sample of the petitions sent to Harrisburg, and as showing how generally they were signed by the leading business men of that day, we give one of them as drawn up by the late C. S. Minor and circulated in Honesdale and vicinity. It is sad to think that not one of the signers is now in the land of the living.

To the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of Penn'a, in General Assembly met. The Petition of the subscribers, citizens of Wayne Co. and vicinity, respectfully represents—That we are informed and believe that the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company are applying for a release of the right reserved by the State of Pennsylvania to resume the privileges granted to said company at the end of thirty years; that we believe that this Commonwealth has a valuable interest in the

works of said Company, and that it is inexpedient to release it—unless it be for a valuable consideration; that we believe the Report of the Committee appointed to examine into the affairs of said Company does not present a correct statement of the facts—but—however it may have been procured—is wholly on the side of said Company.

Your Petitioners therefore pray that the rights of the State be not released and that an honest investigation be had of the affairs of said Company and they will ever pray, etc.:

John F. Roe, Jeremiah Clark, Thos. Benny, Alanson Blood, Joseph D. Cutter, Abraham Houghton, Gilbert Cooper, Robins Douglas, William R. Underwood, Isaac V. Writer, G. P. Hepp, Dickson & West, John Blake, Josiah Foster, Isiah Snyder, Thomas Stephens, D. A. Waterbury, G. V. Wallace, J. H. Marsh, W. Mullens, Thomas Docketty, N. F. Marsh, Edward Murray, F. J. Grillet, Abram Winton, Ed. S. Wolf, William A. Hiley, J. A. Hendrick, James W. Youngs, Thos. S. Rogers, A. R. Kingsbury, Wm. G. Herlinger, E. H. Clark, Robert Westlake, J. Heichenbacher, Sr., Wm. Broughty, Jr., S. H. Plumb, J. H. Sutton, Wm. Crane, John A. Gastin, H. A. Woodhouse, T. S. Brown, Peter Spawny, Aaron McKnight, E. A. Hendrick, Oliver Hamlin, Ambrose Wheeler, H. O. Hamlin, W. T. Estabrook, E. T. Beers, William Boers, R. K. Palmer, Josiah Mills, Jacob Schoonmaker, William G. VanRuren, Frank Arnold, David Edgett, Patrick Creden, Richard Matthews, Edwin Foot, George T. Matthews, Eugene Davis, Wm. C. Snow, George Griner, John N. Griner, Jr., Oscar Griner, Calvin V. Little, O. D. Gustin, William Day, M. F. Vankirk, W. & H. C. Crane, David Cory, Daniel Thurston, H. B. Hamlin, J. H. Dunning, A. G. Plum, Henry Dart, William H. Fuller, Caleb Camp, Pope Bushnell, Daniel Leary, Thomas Bryant, John Moser, Henry Edgett, Burton Moses, Silas B. Foot, Edward Jenkins, Sheridan Hayden, R. Deputy, E. W. Porter, W. P. Hurlburt, A. B. Edgett, Philip Beeler, John N. Conger, R. W. Thilou, A. H. Edwards, Wm. Turner, A. J. Sullivan, E. H. Hustings, P. W. Stockbower, William R. B. Stockbower, P. J. Cole, Wm. Menner, E. L. Russell, John Henigan, Richard Sangwin, James S. Bassett, W. M. Cline, Horace Buckland, M. Jakway, William Hase, Hiram Plum, George Henington, Gaylord Russell, Jas. Browne, H. H. Hyde, Piny White, Wm. R. McClary, Charles Schlager, John Meier, M. & J. O'Neill.

FOR REGISTER AND RECORDER.



A. O. BLAKE.

Alfred O. Blake was born near Bethany 42 years ago, his parents, the late J. V. and Jane (Dony) Blake, having settled in Wayne county over sixty years ago. To them ten children were born, eight boys and two girls. A. O. Blake was the seventh son before a daughter gladdened the household. He was raised on the homestead just south of Bethany, and educated in the schools of that borough and Honesdale. He has been engaged at farming, milk producing being his specialty, for over twenty years. Four years ago, his health being somewhat impaired by over-work, he spent a year in newspaper work, with the Wayne Independent, and then accepted a responsible position with an exporting New York Live Stock Co., as their western buyer, and while serving in that capacity making large purchases of horses, cattle and mules. A year later he was compelled to leave this lucrative position through the illness of his only child, from a complication of diseases which finally terminated in typhoid fever, and required and received all the skill and attention that money could command. When his daughter's health permitted he engaged in the stock business in partnership with his brother, B. F. Blake, and they have carried on a lively trade in milch cows, disposing of them at auction in New Jersey and Orange county, N. Y., A. O. doing the selling. "Better stock" has been the motto of the firm, and they have furnished many farmers stock calves at cost, to induce them to breed the H. C. stein blood. In consequence, "Al," as he is known by the farmers, is a welcome guest at the homes of all progressive stock raisers, possessing as he does a pleasing personality, a humorous disposition and a fund of information collected through experience in a business way. All with whom he deals will testify that he pays his debts promptly and courteously. In his home town he has filled many positions of trust, including the offices of school director and trustee of the Presbyterian church and cemetery, in the latter capacity obtaining last year a gift of two acres of land for the cemetery from the Olin estate. Mr. Blake has filled all the high offices of the Grange, Master of Beech Grove, Master of Pomona Grange, and County Deputy for three years. As a contributor to the local press he has been very efficient, and has written more nice sketches of the people of Wayne county than has been published from any other pen. Personally he is temperate in his habits, and a lover of literature and music. Every night he may be found at his fireside, in company, he claims, with the nicest daughter that was ever born. He is the fourth largest taxpayer in his district. Having never before aspired for a county office and having received the nomination for Register and Recorder in an honorable way, being a hustling, energetic business man, he is working hard for success, and earnestly solicits your vote at the coming election.